

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, EAID

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT -- THAILAND, INDONESIA,
MALAYSIA, BURMA AND SINGAPORE AFFAIRS

INDONESIA

IBM ADDRESSES APPEAL TO PRESIDENT SUHARTO - CONFIDENTIAL

IBM VICE PRESIDENT FIGUEROA AND JOHN EWEN OF PT IBM
INDONESIA GAVE DEPARTMENT COPY OF LETTER TO PRESIDENT
SUHARTO FROM FRANK CARY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, WHICH
WAS DELIVERED TODAY TO INDONESIAN EMBASSY (ECONOMIC
COUNSELOR) FOR TRANSMITTAL TO JAKARTA. WE ARE TELEGRAPH-
ING THE TEXT TO EMBASSY JAKARTA WITH IBM'S REQUEST THAT
THE EMBASSY NOT INDICATE KNOWLEDGE OF LETTER TO GOI UNTIL
IBM ADVISES HS FURTHER. LETTER REQUESTS PRESIDENT SUHARTO'S
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INTERVENTION IN IBM'S CASE, OUTLINING IBM'S THESIS, ALREADY
ADVANCED IN A LEGAL BRIEF SUBMITTED TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE,
THAT IBM SHOULD BE GRANTED EXTENSION OF ITS BUSINESS
LICENSE AFTER JANUARY 18, 1978, TO OPERATE WHOLLY-OWNED
SUBSIDIARY UNDER PROVISION OF ARTICLE 6C OF THE 1968
DOMESTIC CAPITAL INVESTMENT LAW. THE LETTER ALSO EXPRESSED
IBM'S DESIRE THAT RA PFEIFFER, CHAIRMAN OF IBM WORLD TRADE

AMERICAS FAR EAST CORP PROCEED TO JAKARTA TO EXPLAIN IBM'S

CASE TO SUHARTO PRIOR TO ANY FINAL DECISION ON THE LEGAL
ISSUE.

PL 480, TITLE I (CONTINUED) - LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

TITLE I PACKAGE FOR FY 78 OF 300,000 TONS OF RICE,
160,000 TONS OF WHEAT AND 20,000 TONS OF BULGUR (TOTAL
VALUE 99.2 MILLION DOLS) NOW UNDER INTERAGENCY REVIEW.
(COTTON HAS BEEN DROPPED IN VIEW OF ADVICE FROM
AGRICULTURE ATTACHE THAT GOI NO LONGER INTERESTED).
STATE, USDA, AID ARE SUPPORTING THE 99.2 MILLION DOLS
PROPOSAL WITH TREASURY'S POSITION STILL AWAITED.

THAILAND

"THAMMASAT 18" GO ON TRIAL IN BANGKOK-UNCLASSIFIED

THE TRIAL OF THE 18 STUDENTS AND OTHER ACTIVISTS ACCUSED
OF CRIMINAL ACTS DURING THE OCTOBER 6 THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY
DISTURBANCES OPENED IN BANGKOK ON SEPTEMBER 5. THE
SECOND SESSION IS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 7 WHEN THE GOVERN-
MENT WILL START CALLING SOME 200 WITNESSES FOR THE
PROSECUTION. WITH ONLY TWO OR THREE COURTROOM SESSIONS
PER MONTH NOW PLANNED, THE TRIAL SHOULD GO ON FOR MANY
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MONTHS.

NO DEFENSE LAWYERS ARE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN
MILITARY TRIALS UNDER CURRENT THAI LAW. THE DEFENDANTS,
HOWEVER, ARE ALLOWED TO CONSULT ATTORNEYS OUTSIDE THE
COURTROOM AND TO SPEAK TO THEIR OWN DEFENSE IN COURT.
THE TRIAL WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND PRESS. VANCE

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